

## APPENDIX B

# COMMANDER'S GUIDANCE FOR FIRE SUPPORT PERSONNEL

The commander's intent should prioritize fire support on the battlefield and identify critical tasks for fire support as well as for maneuver. His intent focuses fire support execution at the critical time and place. To ensure that fire support is properly integrated into the scheme of maneuver, the FSO must obtain answers to the questions below. Most of the answers may

be obtained from information presented at the mission brief or deduced from the commander's intent. Some answers may require clarification by the commander himself. Regardless, these answers should be confirmed as meeting the commander's intent for fire support during the staff estimate, war-gaming, and rehearsal processes.

## GUIDANCE FOR FIRE SUPPORT PERSONNEL

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS	DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the offensive mission?</li> <li>• What is the scheme of maneuver?</li> <li>• Are there any unique maneuver requirements for the firing batteries?</li> <li>• What is the zone of action?</li> <li>Ž What is the enemy situation?</li> <li>• What are the known and/or suspected enemy locations?</li> <li>Ž What units are to receive priority of fires?</li> <li>Ž What fire support assets are providing the priority fires?</li> <li>• What are the priority targets, and which units will be allocated a priority target?</li> <li>Ž When is priority shifted to the next priority target?</li> <li>• Where are special fires to be planned (smoke, illumination, FASCAM, and so forth)?</li> <li>Ž Is there a requirement to adjust smoke or illumination targets?</li> <li>• Is there a requirement to register fire support assets?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the defensive mission?</li> <li>Ž What is the plan for defense?</li> <li>Ž What is the sector of action?</li> <li>Ž What is the enemy situation?</li> <li>Ž What are the known and/or suspected enemy locations?</li> <li>Ž What are the priority targets?</li> <li>Ž Where are designated engagement areas?</li> <li>• Which are the most likely avenues of approach?</li> <li>• What and where are the obstacles, and how are they to be covered? (Coordinate with engineers.)</li> <li>• Have FPFs been allocated? Where are they to be planned? Are they to be adjusted?</li> <li>• What are the primary and alternate signals to fire the FPFs?</li> <li>Ž How are COLTs to be employed?</li> <li>• Are scouts forward?</li> <li>• What special fires are to be planned (smoke, illumination, FASCAM, and so forth)?</li> </ul>

### GUIDANCE FOR FIRE SUPPORT PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS	DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS
<p>• How are COLTs to be employed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which signals or events will be used to start special fires?</li> <li>• Which maneuver control measures have been established?</li> </ul> <p>• Are any restrictive fire support coordinating measures required?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What additional fire support assets have been allocated (attached or in support)?</li> </ul> <p>• Are there any peculiar communications requirements?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will logistical support for mortars be accomplished?</li> <li>• Who will reposition mortars?</li> <li>• What are the future plans?</li> <li>• What is the chain of command?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there special fire support requirements for the scouts?</li> <li>• Is there a requirement to adjust fires or to register?</li> <li>• Which maneuver control measures have been established?</li> <li>• Are any restrictive fire support coordinating measures required?</li> </ul> <p>• What additional fire support assets have been allocated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any peculiar communications requirements?</li> <li>• Which signals will be used to start firing?</li> <li>• What are the future plans?</li> </ul> <p>• What is the chain of command?</p> <p>• How much time is available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which units are to receive priority of fires?</li> <li>• When is priority shifted to the next priority target?</li> </ul>